

March 8-2012

Senate Agriculture Committee

Senator Tom Casperson

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John Koski

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I am writing about Senate Bill
No. 996.

We have lost cattle to wolves every
year since 1998. In 2010 we lost 43
head of cattle and in 2011 we lost 38 head.

We run Hereford, Shorthorn, and Angus
cattle. We buy good breeding stock.
A grand champion Bull from the Michigan
State Fair in Detroit when they still
had the Fair in Detroit. A U.P. State
Fair Champion. Bulls that were shown
at the Wisconsin State Fair. Bulls that
were shown at the Minnesota State Fair.

Some wolf kills we didn't get paid
any thing for. Some we got as little as
\$175.00, some even less.

When a heifer or cow is killed we
not only lose her but all the calves
she would give us. Breeding stock is
worth more than the stock we ship
to feed yards or to slaughter houses.

Right now feeder cattle are at all time
high prices because the U.S. beef herd
is the smallest in 60 years.

Federal agents have been on our farms
every year since 1998. They can back
up anything I say.

We have had cattle on our family

Farm for well over 100 years. Until the wolves got protected we never lost any cattle to wolves. A good friend and neighbor was the last one in Michigan to collect a bounty when the state paid a bounty to kill wolves.

Right now you can not buy a good bull for \$2,000.00 They cost a lot of money. Good female breeding stock is high price too.

If you have any questions write or call 906 663 4552.

Thank you

John Koski

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The March BEEF magazine just came too and yearling beef steers going to a feed yard will sell for an average of \$1.50 per pound. We ship our yearling cattle to Iowa. They weigh 800 pounds and up. We got over \$1,000.00 on an animal in December.